Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraph [0020] with the following amended paragraph:

[0020] The polyester comprises about 0.05 to about 1 weight percent (wt%), based on the total weight of the polyester, of one or more residues of a branching monomer having 3 or more carboxyl substituents, hydroxyl substituents, or a combination thereof. Examples of branching monomers include, but are not limited to, multifunctional acids or glycols such as trimellitic acid, trimellitic anhydride, pyromellitic dianhydride, trimethylolpropane, glycerol, pentaerythritol, citric acid, tartaric acid, 3-hydroxyglutaric acid and the like. Preferably, the branching monomer residues comprise about 0.1 to about 0.7 ~~mole~~ weight percent of one or more residues of: trimellitic anhydride, pyromellitic dianhydride, glycerol, sorbitol, 1,2,6-hexanetriol, pentaerythritol, trimethylolethane, or trimesic acid. The branching monomer may be added to the polyester reaction mixture or blended with the polyester in the form of a concentrate as described, for example, in U.S. Patent No.'s 5,654,347 and 5,696,176.

Please replace paragraph [0044] with the following amended paragraph:

[0044] The diol residues may comprise about 10 to about 100 mole percent of the residues of 1,4-cyclohexanedimethanol and 0 to about 90 mole% of the residues of ethylene glycol. In another example, the diol residues may comprise about 20 to about 80 mole percent of the residues of 1,4-cyclohexanedimethanol and about 20 to about 80 mole percent of the residues of ethylene glycol. In yet another example, the diol residues may comprise about 20 to about 65 mole percent of the residues of 1,4-cyclohexanedimethanol and the diacid residues about 95 to about 100 mole percent of the residues of terephthalic acid. In addition, the polyester also may further comprise from 0 to about 20 mole percent of the residues of one or more modifying diacids containing about 4 to about 40 carbon atoms as described previously for the polyester compositions of the present invention. Preferably, the modifying dicarboxylic acids include, but are not limited to, one or more of succinic acid, glutaric acid, adipic acid, suberic acid, sebacic acid, azelaic acid, dimer acid, or sulfoisophthalic acid. The

polyester preferably includes the residues of a branching monomer comprising about 0.1 to about 0.7 ~~mole~~ weight percent of one or more residues of: trimellitic anhydride, pyromellitic dianhydride, glycerol, sorbitol, 1,2,6-hexanetriol, pentaerythritol, trimethylolethane, or trimesic acid.